

**CENTRAL PNEUMATIC®**

# OILLESS AIR COMPRESSOR 135 PSI

**Model 96087**

## ASSEMBLY AND OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS



**Please note:** Air Hose sold separately.

Due to continuing improvements, actual product may differ slightly from the product described herein.

**CAUTION!**

**Your Warranty Is Voided If:**

- a. You drop the Air Compressor.  
Always lift the Air Compressor using its Handle.

Distributed Exclusively by



®

3491 Mission Oaks Blvd., Camarillo, CA 93011

Visit our website at: <http://www.harborfreight.com>

**TO PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY, READ AND UNDERSTAND  
ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE.**

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## SPECIFICATIONS

Electrical Requirements	120 VAC / 60 Hz / 8.0 Amps / Single Phase / 2320 RPM Power Cord Type: 18 AWG x 3 C x 6 ft. Long Power Plug Type: 3 Prong Grounded Power Switch Type: ON/OFF Rocker
Compressor Style	Vertical with Pancake Tank
Pump Type	Single Cylinder / Oil Free / Belt Drive
Maximum Air Pressure	135 PSI
Pressure Settings	Set Pressures: 100 PSI Cut-in / 135 PSI Shut-off
Pump SCFM Maximum	3.0 SCFM @ 40 PSI 2.0 SCFM @ 90 PSI
Air Tank Capacity	1.75 Gallons
Tank Air Outlet Size	1/4"-18 NPT Female Threads
Pressure Gauge Range	0-230 PSI
Pressure Relief Valve Rating	150 PSI
Overall Dimensions	20-7/8" H x 14-1/8" W x 11-3/8" Depth
Weight	31.5 Lb.

## SAVE THIS MANUAL

You will need this manual for the safety warnings and precautions, assembly, operating, inspection, maintenance and cleaning procedures, parts list and assembly diagram. Keep your invoice with this manual. Write the invoice number on the inside of the front cover. Keep this manual and invoice in a safe and dry place for future reference.

## GENERAL SAFETY RULES AND PRECAUTIONS



### WARNING!

**READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL INSTRUCTIONS**  
**Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious injury.**  
**SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS**

### WORK AREA

1. **Keep your work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered benches and dark areas invite accidents.
2. **Do not operate air compressors in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.** Air Compressors create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.
3. **Keep bystanders, children, and visitors away while operating an air tool.** Distractions can cause you to lose control. Protect others in the work area from debris such as chips and sparks. Provide barriers or shields as needed. Children should not be allowed in the work area.

## **PERSONAL SAFETY**

1. **Stay alert. Watch what you are doing, and use common sense when operating an air tool. Do not use an air tool while tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication.** A moment of inattention while operating air tools may result in serious personal injury.
2. **Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Contain long hair. Keep your hair, clothing, and gloves away from moving parts.** Loose clothes, jewelry, or long hair can be caught in moving parts.
3. **Avoid accidental starting.** Be sure the Power Switch (23) is in its “OFF” position, all pressure is safely released, and the unit is unplugged before moving the Compressor and before performing any service, maintenance, or cleaning procedures on the unit.
4. **Remove adjusting keys or wrenches before turning the Compressor on.** A wrench or a key that is left attached to a rotating part of the machine may result in personal injury.
5. **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** Proper footing and balance enables better control of the air tool in unexpected situations.
6. **Use safety equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Always wear ANSI-approved safety impact glasses and hearing protection under a full face shield during use.

## **TOOL USE AND CARE**

1. **Do not force the tool. Use the correct tool for your application.** The correct tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it is designed.
2. **Do not use the Compressor if the Compressor's Power Switch (23) does not turn it on or off.** Any tool that cannot be controlled with its Power Switch is dangerous and must be replaced.
3. **Store idle tools out of reach of children and other untrained persons.** Tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.
4. **Maintain tools with care.** Properly maintained tools are less likely to bind and are easier to control. Do not use a damaged tool. Tag damaged tools “**Do not use**” until repaired.
5. **Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, and any other condition that may affect the tool's operation. If damaged, have the tool serviced before using.** Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained tools.
6. **Use only accessories that are recommended by the manufacturer for your model.** Accessories that may be suitable for one tool may become hazardous when used on another tool.

## **SERVICE**

1. **Tool service must be performed only by qualified repair personnel.** Service or maintenance performed by unqualified personnel could result in a risk of injury.
2. **When servicing a tool, use only identical replacement parts. Follow instructions in the “Inspection, Maintenance, And Cleaning” section of this manual.** Use of unauthorized parts or failure to follow maintenance instructions may create a risk of electric shock or injury.

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## **SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES AND PRECAUTIONS**

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1. **CAUTION! Your Warranty is voided if:**
  - a. **You drop the Air Compressor.** Always lift the Air Compressor using its Handle.
2. **DANGER! This Air Compressor is NOT equipped and should not be used “as-is” to supply breathing air.** For any application of air for human consumption, you must fit the Air Compressor with suitable in-line safety and alarm equipment (not included). This additional equipment is necessary to properly filter and purify the air to meet minimal specifications for Grade D breathing as described in Compressed Gas Association Commodity Specification G 7.1-1966, OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134, and/or Canadian Standards Associations (CSA). In the event the Air Compressor is used for the purpose of breathing air application and proper in-line safety and alarm equipment is not simultaneously used, existing warranties are void, and Harbor Freight Tools disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss, personal injury, or damage.
3. **DANGER!** Never attempt to repair or modify the Air Tank (17). Welding, drilling, or any other modification will weaken the Tank resulting in damage from rupture or explosion. Always replace worn, cracked, or damaged Tanks.
4. **Maintain labels and nameplates on the Air Compressor.** These carry important information. If unreadable or missing, contact Harbor Freight Tools for a replacement.
5. **Make sure all tools and equipment used with the Air Compressor are rated to the appropriate capacity.** Do not use any tool or equipment that does not operate from 100 PSI to 135 PSI.
6. **Drain the Air Compressor every day.** Do not allow excessive moisture to build up inside the Air Compressor’s Tank. Do not open the Drain Valve (18) with more than 10 PSI of air pressure in the Tank. Do not unscrew the Drain Valve so that more than four threads are showing.
7. **Avoid injury.** Never direct air hose (not included) at people or animals.
8. **Do not alter, remove, or tamper with the Safety Valve (5).**

9. **Make sure the Air Compressor is located on a flat, level, sturdy surface capable of supporting the weight of the Compressor, operator(s), and any additional tools and equipment.**
10. **Do not move or transport the Compressor if the Air Tank (17) is under pressure.**
11. **Industrial applications must follow OSHA guidelines.**
12. **Never stand on the Air Compressor.** Serious injury could result if the Compressor is tipped.
13. **Never leave the Air Compressor unattended when it is plugged in and running.** Turn off the Compressor, and unplug the unit before leaving.
14. **Do not allow children and other unauthorized people to handle or play with the Air Compressor.**
15. **Do not modify the factory set pressure shutoff or startup switches.** This tool will do the work better and safer at the speed and capacity for which it was designed.
16. **Avoid body contact with oils and lubricants used in the Compressor.** If swallowed, seek medical treatment immediately. For skin contact, immediately wash with soap and water. For eye contact, immediately flush eyes with clean water.
17. **WARNING!** Risk of fire or explosion. Do not spray flammable liquid in a confined area or towards a hot surface. Spray area must be well ventilated. Do not smoke while spraying or spray where spark or flame is present. Arcing parts: Keep Compressor at least 20 feet away from explosive vapors, such as when spraying with a spray gun.
18. **Risk of bursting.** Do not adjust Regulator to result in output pressure greater than marked maximum pressure of attachment.
19. **Risk of injury.** Do not direct air stream at body. To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not expose to rain. Store indoors.
20. **WARNING!** The brass components of this product contain lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects (or other reproductive harm). (California Health & Safety code § 25249.5, et seq.)
21. **People with pacemakers should consult their physician(s) before use.** Electromagnetic fields in close proximity to heart pacemaker could cause pacemaker interference or pacemaker failure.
22. **WARNING!** The warnings and precautions discussed in this manual cannot cover all possible conditions and situations that may occur. It must be understood by the operator that common sense and caution are factors which cannot be built into this product, but must be supplied by the operator.

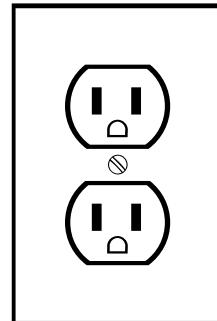
## GROUNDING

### **WARNING!**

Improperly connecting the grounding wire can result in the risk of electric shock. Check with a qualified electrician if you are in doubt as to whether the outlet is properly grounded. Do not modify the power cord plug provided with the tool. Never remove the grounding prong from the plug. Do not use the tool if the power cord or plug is damaged. If damaged, have it repaired by a service facility before use. If the plug will not fit the outlet, have a proper outlet installed by a qualified electrician.

### **GROUNDED TOOLS: TOOLS WITH THREE PRONG PLUGS**

1. Tools marked with "Grounding Required" have a three wire cord and three prong grounding plug. The plug must be connected to a properly grounded outlet. If the tool should electrically malfunction or break down, grounding provides a low resistance path to carry electricity away from the user, reducing the risk of electric shock. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**
2. The grounding prong in the plug is connected through the green wire inside the cord to the grounding system in the tool. The green wire in the cord must be the only wire connected to the tool's grounding system and must never be attached to an electrically "live" terminal. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**
3. Your tool must be plugged into an appropriate outlet, properly installed and grounded in accordance with all codes and ordinances. The plug and outlet should look like those in the following illustration. **(See 3-Prong Plug and Outlet.)**



**3-Prong Plug and Outlet**

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## SYMOLOGY

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	Double Insulated
	Canadian Standards Association
	Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
	Volts Alternating Current
	Amperes
n <sub>0</sub> xxxx/min.	No Load Revolutions per Minute (RPM)

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## UNPACKING

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When unpacking, check to make sure all the parts shown on the **Parts List in this manual** are included. If any parts are missing or broken, please call Harbor Freight Tools at the number shown on the cover of this manual as soon as possible.

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## PRODUCT FEATURES

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## **OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

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**Note: Prior to starting the Compressor, read and familiarize yourself with the To Stop the Compressor procedures listed below.**

**To Start The Compressor:**

1. Check to make sure the Air Tank's Drain Valve (18), located at the bottom of the Air Compressor, is fully closed. Pull on the Safety Valve (5) to verify that it is unstuck. **(See Figure A.)**
2. Connect an air hose (not included) to the air outlet of the Compressor. **(See Figure A.)**
3. Plug the Power Cord (35) into the nearest 120 volt, grounded, electrical outlet.
4. Turn the Power Switch (23) to its “**ON**” position to start the Compressor. **(See Figure A.)**
5. Wait until the Tank Pressure Gauge (28) reaches at least **100 PSI** before attempting to operate the Compressor. **(See Figure A.)**
6. Once the Tank Pressure Gauge (28) reaches 100 PSI, adjust the Regulator Valve (30) to feed the desired PSI to the air hose. To do so, turn the Regulator Valve clockwise to increase, or counterclockwise to decrease the PSI. The Tool Pressure Gauge (28) will indicate the PSI being delivered to the air hose. **(See Figure A.)**
7. **NOTE:** When the maximum air pressure, **135 PSI** is reached as indicated by the Tank Pressure Gauge (28), the motor will stop. The Compressor will automatically restart when the air pressure drops below **100 PSI**. **(See Figure A.)**
8. **IMPORTANT:** The Air Compressor features an Overload Protector (24) button which, in case of overheating, will automatically shut down the Compressor. Should the Compressor shut down, turn the Power Switch (23) to its “**OFF**” position. Wait several minutes until the Compressor cools down. Press the Overload Protector button to reset, and turn the Power Switch to its “**ON**” position to restart the unit. The Compressor will not restart unless it has cooled down enough, regardless of pushing the Overload Protector Button. **(See Figure A.)**

**To Stop The Compressor:**

1. Turn the Power Switch (23) to its “**OFF**” position. **(See Figure A.)**
2. **WARNING!** Unplug the Air Compressor's Power Cord (35) from the electrical outlet. **(See Figure A.)**

## **To Prepare The Compressor For Storage:**

When done using the Compressor for the day,

1. Pull out on the Safety Valve (5) to release remaining air pressure from the tool. Then disconnect the air hose (not included) from the Compressor. (**See Figure A.**)
2. Remove any moisture in the Air Tank (17) by opening the Drain Valve (18). Then, retighten the Drain Valve. (**See Figure A.**)
3. **WARNING!** Allow the Air Compressor to completely cool. Then store the unit in a clean, dry, safe location out of reach of children.

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## **INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE, AND CLEANING**

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1. **WARNING!** Make sure the Power Switch (23) of the Air Compressor is in its “**OFF**” position, all air pressure has been released from the unit, and the unit is unplugged from its electrical outlet before performing any inspection, maintenance, cleaning procedures, or leaving the unit unattended.
2. **Before each use**, inspect the general condition of the Air Compressor. Check for loose screws, misalignment or binding of moving parts, cracked or broken parts, damaged electrical wiring, loose air fittings, and any other condition that may affect the safe operation of the Compressor. If abnormal noise or vibration occurs, have the problem corrected before further use. **Do not use damaged equipment.**
3. **Daily**, purge the Air Tank (17) of all air and moisture to prevent corrosion. To do so, slowly and carefully unscrew (no more than four threads) the Drain Valve (18) until the compressed air and condensation begins to be released from the Tank. Allow sufficient time for all of the air and condensation to escape from the Tank. Then, firmly re-tighten the Drain Valve.
4. **CAUTION! All maintenance, service, or repairs not mentioned in this manual must only be performed by a qualified service technician.**

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## **TROUBLESHOOTING**

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<b>Problem</b>	<b>Possible Cause</b>	<b>Possible Solution</b>
Compressor will not start.	1. Blown fuse or circuit breaker tripped. 2. Overload Protector tripped. 3. Loose electrical connections.	1. Replace or reset fuse/circuit breaker. 2. Reset Overload Protector. 3. Make sure Compressor is plugged into a working, 120 volt, grounded, electrical outlet.
Low pressure.	1. Air Tank pressure too low. 2. Air leak in Safety Valve.	1. Allow Air Tank pressure to reach at least 105 PSI. 2. Check Valve by pulling on ring. If condition persists, have a qualified service technician replace Valve.
Safety Valve releasing.	1. Defective Pressure Switch. 2. Defective Safety Valve.	1. Have a qualified service technician replace Pressure Switch. 2. Replace Safety Valve.
Power Switch will not turn off Compressor.	Defective Power Switch.	Immediately unplug Compressor from its electrical outlet. Do not operate Compressor until a qualified service technician can replace Power Switch.

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## **PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY**

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THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR HAS PROVIDED THE PARTS LIST AND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM IN THIS MANUAL AS A REFERENCE TOOL ONLY. NEITHER THE MANUFACTURER OR DISTRIBUTOR MAKES ANY REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND TO THE BUYER THAT HE OR SHE IS QUALIFIED TO REPLACE ANY PARTS OF THE PRODUCT. IN FACT, THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR EXPRESSLY STATES THAT ALL REPAIRS AND PARTS REPLACEMENTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY CERTIFIED AND LICENSED TECHNICIANS, AND NOT BY THE BUYER. THE BUYER ASSUMES ALL RISKS AND LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER REPAIRS TO THE ORIGINAL PRODUCT OR REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO, OR ARISING OUT OF HIS OR HER INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT PARTS THERETO.

### **PARTS LIST**

<b>Part</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Part</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Qty.</b>
1	Front Housing	1	19	Pump Assembly	1
2	Screw	4	20	Brass Connector	1
3	Brass Connector	1	21	Hoop	2
4	L Connector	2	22	Rubber Tube	1
5	Safety Valve	2	23	Power Switch	1
6	Rubber Foot Block	2	24	Overload Protector	1
7	Rubber Foot	2	25	Back Cover	1
8	Screw	2	26	Screw	2
9	Aluminum Tube	1	27	Pull Handle Assembly	1
10	Back Housing	1	28	Pressure Gauge	2
11	Wheel	2	29	Pressure Switch	1
12	Wheel Cover	2	30	Regulator Valve	1
13	Pin	2	31	Axle	1
14	Hoop	2	32	Rubber Bumper	4
15	Soft Tube	1	35	Power Cord	1
16	Value	1			
17	Tank	1			
18	Drain Valve	1			

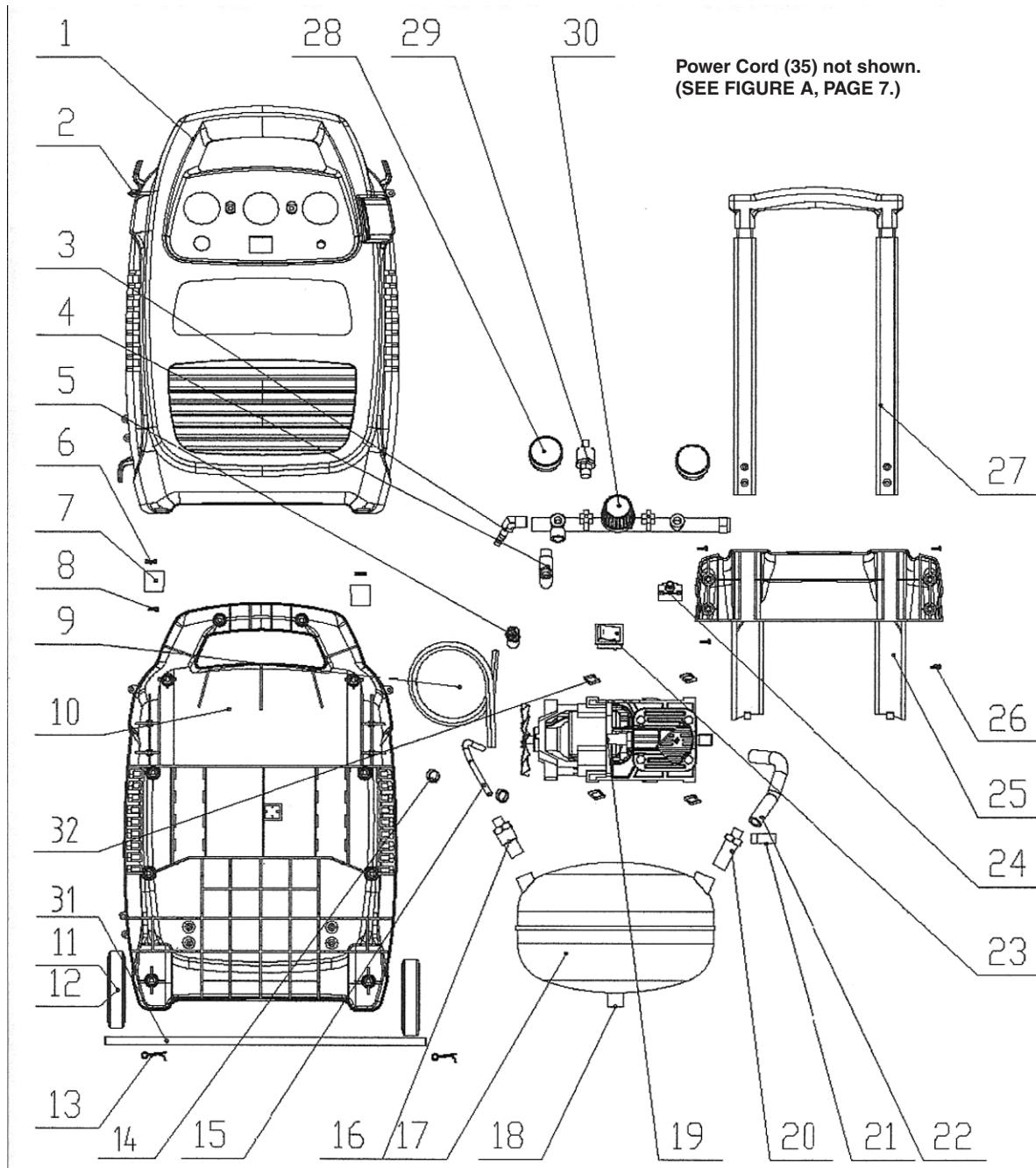
#### **NOTE:**

Some parts are listed and shown for illustration purposes only,  
and are not available individually as replacement parts.

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## ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

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**NOTE:**

Some parts are listed and shown for illustration purposes only,  
and are not available individually as replacement parts.

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## **LIMITED 1 YEAR / 90 DAY WARRANTY**

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Harbor Freight Tools Co. makes every effort to assure that its products meet high quality and durability standards, and warrants to the original purchaser that for a period of one year from date of purchase that the tank is free of defects in materials and workmanship (90 days if used by a professional contractor or if used as rental equipment). Harbor Freight Tools also warrants to the original purchaser, for a period of ninety days from date of purchase, that all other parts and components of the product are free from defects in materials and workmanship. This warranty does not apply to damage due directly or indirectly to misuse, abuse, negligence or accidents, repairs or alterations outside our facilities, normal wear and tear, or to lack of maintenance. We shall in no event be liable for death, injuries to persons or property, or for incidental, contingent, special or consequential damages arising from the use of our product. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation of exclusion may not apply to you. **THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS.**

To take advantage of this warranty, the product or part must be returned to us with transportation charges prepaid. Proof of purchase date and an explanation of the complaint must accompany the merchandise. If our inspection verifies the defect, we will either repair or replace the product at our election or we may elect to refund the purchase price if we cannot readily and quickly provide you with a replacement. We will return repaired products at our expense, but if we determine there is no defect, or that the defect resulted from causes not within the scope of our warranty, then you must bear the cost of returning the product.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

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